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Ag Digest

Note to Survey Respondents: Results of many surveys we conduct throughout the year are included in this report! Most survey results are not published individually. **Thank you** for taking the time to complete our surveys!

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The Keystone Ag Digest may be found on the Internet at the following address: www.nass.usda.gov/pa/agdigest.htm

DAIRY PRODUCTS

United States' butter production was 104 million pounds in June, 5.2 percent above June 2004 but 12.8 percent below May 2005.

Total cheese output (excluding cottage cheese) was 761 million pounds, 6.4 percent above June 2004 but 3.1 percent below May 2005.

American type cheese production totaled 321 million pounds, 4.1 percent above June 2004 but 3.5 percent below May 2005.

Frozen desserts: (comparisons with June 2004)

- * Ice cream, regular (hard) -- 90.3 million gallons, up 6.0 percent.
- * Ice cream, lowfat (total) -- 41.5 million gallons, down 1.1 percent.
- * Ice cream, nonfat (hard) -- 1.86 million gallons, down 2.1 percent.
- * Sherbet (hard) -- 5.80 million gallons, up 3.5 percent.
- * Frozen yogurt (total) -- 6.01 million gallons, down 8.6 percent.

PRODUCTION OF SELECTED DAIRY PRODUCTS

| Products | Jun 2004 | May 2005 | Jun 2005 |
|-----------------------------|----------|----------|----------|
| 000 Lbs. | | | |
| PENNSYLVANIA | | | |
| Butter | 5,527 | 6,870 | 6,226 |
| Ice Cream | 4,985 | 3,576 | 4,592 |
| UNITED STATES | | | |
| Butter | 99,156 | 119,508 | 104,265 |
| Cheese: | | | |
| American Types..... | 308,517 | 332,821 | 321,013 |
| Swiss..... | 23,613 | 25,490 | 24,591 |
| Brick and Muenster..... | 6,765 | 5,999 | 6,222 |
| Cream and Neufchatel..... | 50,394 | 51,134 | 52,935 |
| Mozzarella | 234,934 | 262,483 | 253,920 |
| Other Italian | 57,012 | 66,785 | 63,500 |
| Total Italian Types | 291,946 | 329,268 | 317,420 |
| All Other | 22,879 | 27,021 | 25,724 |
| Total | 715,331 | 785,539 | 761,032 |
| NF Dry Milk, Human | 144,095 | 124,105 | 125,231 |
| Yogurt, Plain & Flavored... | 241,514 | 262,207 | 257,305 |
| 000 Gal. | | | |
| FROZEN PRODUCTS: | | | |
| Ice Cream, Hard | 85,245 | 79,510 | 90,324 |
| Ice Cream, Lowfat..... | 41,920 | 35,568 | 41,460 |
| Ice Cream, Nonfat..... | 1,904 | 1,745 | 1,864 |
| Sherbet, Hard | 5,602 | 5,022 | 5,796 |
| Frozen Yogurt, Total..... | 6,580 | 6,241 | 6,013 |
| MIX FOR PRODUCTS: | | | |
| Ice Cream Mix..... | 49,845 | 45,543 | 50,926 |
| Ice Cream Mix, Lowfat..... | 23,164 | 19,730 | 22,995 |
| Ice Cream Mix, Nonfat..... | 1,356 | 1,254 | 1,366 |
| Sherbet Mix..... | 3,986 | 3,579 | 4,159 |
| Yogurt Mix..... | 3,783 | 3,671 | 3,537 |

August Yield Survey Results

The results of the August Yield Survey are contained on Pages 2 and 3 of this release.
We wish to thank those farm operators who provided information for that report.

PENNSYLVANIA'S CROP FORECAST

Based on August 1, 2005 forecasts for yield and production, the **Keystone state's** farmers expect to produce more oats, winter wheat, soybeans, and apples than last year. Production is expected to be below last year for corn for grain, barley, dry alfalfa hay, other dry hay, Southern Maryland and Pennsylvania Seedleaf type tobaccos, pears, peaches, and grapes.

Corn for grain acreage for harvest, at 880,000, is down 100,000 acres from last year. Based on crop conditions as of August 1, corn yield is forecast at 123 bushels per acre, which is 17 bushels per acre less than last year's yield. The corn for grain production of 108.2 million bushels is 21 percent less than last year.

Oats acreage for harvest, at 120,000, is up 10,000 acres from last year. Based on crop conditions as of August 1, the oat yield is forecast at 54 bushels per acre, which is down 1 bushel from both the July 1 forecast last year's final yield. The resulting oat production of 6.5 million bushels would be 7 percent above last year. Barley acreage for harvest, at 50,000, is 5,000 acres less than 2004. Barley yield is forecast at 73 bushels per acre, up 5 bushels per acre from the July 1 forecast, and up 11 bushels from a year ago. Barley production is expected to be 3.65 million bushels, 7 percent below last year's production. Winter wheat acres harvested totaled 160,000, which is 19 percent more than last year. The August 1 winter wheat yield is forecast at 53 bushels per acre, up 4 bushels per acre from both the July 1 forecast and the final yield for 2004. The resulting winter wheat production of 8.48 million bushels would be 28 percent above last year.

Soybean acreage for harvest is set at 450,000, up 25,000 acres from last year. The expected yield of 44 bushels per acre is down 2 bushels from 2004. Production is set at 19.8 million bushels, up 1 percent from last year.

Alfalfa acreage harvested for dry hay is estimated at 500,000, down 40,000 acres from 2004. As of August 1, yield is forecast at 2.60 tons per acre, down 0.2 ton per acre from last year. The resulting production, at 1.3 million tons, is 14 percent less than last year. All other hay acres harvested for dry hay is estimated at 1,160,000, unchanged from last year. The expected yield as of August 1 of 1.90 tons per acre is down 0.5 ton per acre from 2004. Total production, at 2.20 million tons, is 21 percent less than 2004.

Light air-cured burley tobacco acres for harvest are estimated at 2,200. This is the first year that burley tobacco has been in the Pennsylvania estimation program. The yield for burley tobacco is forecast at 2,100 pounds per acre. Southern Maryland-type tobacco acres for harvest are estimated at 1,500, down 700 acres from last year. The yield is forecast at 2,000 pounds, which is up 200 pounds from the 1,800 pounds per acre produced in 2004. Production is estimated at 3.0 million pounds, which is 24 percent less than 2004. Pennsylvania seed-leaf tobacco acreage estimated at 1,300, is 500 acres less than last year. The forecast yield of 2,200 pounds is 100 pounds below 2004. Production, at 2.86 million pounds, is 31 percent less than last year.

U.S. CROP FORECAST

Corn production is forecast at 10.3 billion bushels, down 12 percent from last year, but 3 percent above 2003. Based on conditions as of August 1, yields are expected to average 139.2 bushels per acre, down 21.2 bushels from the record high last year. With the exception of Michigan, forecast yields are lower in all of the Corn Belt states as warm dry weather throughout the growing season depleted soil moisture levels and stressed the crop. Across the U.S., yields are forecast lower than last year in 29 of the 33 published corn states. The largest decreases occurred in Missouri, Illinois, and Kansas. Farmers expect to harvest 74.4 million acres of corn for grain, unchanged from June, but up 1 percent from 2004.

Soybean production is forecast at 2.79 billion bushels, down 11 percent from 2004, but up 14 percent from 2003. Based on August 1 conditions, yields are expected to average 38.7 bushels per acre, down 3.8 bushels from the record high U.S. yield set last year. Yields are lower than 2004 across most of the country, with the exceptions being Georgia, Michigan, Minnesota, North Dakota, South Carolina, and Wisconsin. Area for harvest, at 72.2 million acres, has declined slightly from June and is down 2 percent from 2004.

The final winter wheat production forecast is 1.52 billion bushels. This is down slightly from last month, but 1 percent above 2004. Area harvested for grain totals 34.3 million acres, unchanged from last month, but down 1 percent from last year. The U.S. yield is forecast at 44.4 bushels per acre, down 0.1 bushels from last month.

Oat production for the 2005 crop year is forecast at 128 million bushels, 3 percent below the July 1 forecast, but 10 percent above last year's 116 million bushels. The forecasted yield is 64.7 bushels per acre, down 1.8 bushels from July 1, but unchanged from 2004. Growers expect to harvest 1.98 million acres for grain, unchanged from last month, but up 10 percent from last year.

Barley production for 2005 is forecast at 237 million bushels, down 3 percent from the July forecast, and 15 percent below 2004. Based on August 1 conditions, producers expect to harvest an average of 68.2 bushels per acre, down 1.8 bushels from July, and down 1.2 bushels from last year. Area harvested, at 3.47 million acres, is unchanged from last month, but down 14 percent from 2004.

Production of alfalfa and alfalfa mixtures for dry hay is forecast at 73.8 million tons, down 2 percent from last year. Yields are expected to average 3.34 tons per acre, a decrease of 0.13 ton from last year. Harvested area is 22.1 million acres, unchanged from June, but up 2 percent from 2004.

Production forecast of all other dry hay for 2005 is 76.1 million tons, down 8 percent from 2004. Based on August 1 conditions, yields are expected to average 1.92 tons per acre, down 0.13 ton from last year. Harvested area is estimated at 39.6 million acres, unchanged from the June forecast, but down 2 percent from last year.

All tobacco production for 2005 is forecast at 677 million pounds, down 23 percent from 2004 and 16 percent below 2003. If realized, this will be the lowest production since 1890. Area for harvest is forecast at 316,860 acres, 22 percent below 2004. Yields for 2005 are expected to average 2,137 pounds per acre, 18 pounds lower than a year ago. Burley production is expected to total 204 million pounds, 30 percent below a year ago. Yields are expected to average 1,893 pounds per acre, down 15 pounds from 2004. Burley growers plan to harvest 107,600 acres, 30 percent below last season.

CROP PROSPECTS - AUGUST 1, 2005 WITH COMPARISONS

| Crop | Year | Pennsylvania | | | | United States | | | | Unit |
|------------------------|------|---------------|------------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|---------------------|--------------|--------------|------|
| | | Acreage (000) | | Production | | Acreage (000) | | Production | | |
| | | Planted | Harvested | Per Acre | (000) | Planted | Harvested | Per Acre | (000) | |
| Corn | 2004 | 1,400 | 980 ¹ | 140.0 | 137,200 | 80,930 | 73,632 ¹ | 160.4 | 11,807,217 | Bu. |
| | 2005 | 1,350 | 880 ¹ | 123.0 | 108,240 | 81,592 | 74,368 ¹ | 139.2 | 10,349,841 | Bu. |
| Wheat, Winter | 2004 | 140 | 135 | 49.0 | 6,615 | 43,350 | 34,462 | 43.5 | 1,499,434 | Bu. |
| | 2005 | 170 | 160 | 53.0 | 8,480 | 41,408 | 34,271 | 44.4 | 1,520,848 | Bu. |
| Oats | 2004 | 130 | 110 | 55.0 | 6,050 | 4,085 | 1,792 | 64.7 | 115,935 | Bu. |
| | 2005 | 140 | 120 | 54.0 | 6,480 | 4,342 | 1,976 | 64.7 | 127,819 | Bu. |
| Barley | 2004 | 65 | 55 | 62.0 | 3,410 | 4,527 | 4,021 | 69.4 | 279,253 | Bu. |
| | 2005 | 55 | 50 | 73.0 | 3,650 | 3,970 | 3,471 | 68.2 | 236,729 | Bu. |
| Soybeans | 2004 | 430 | 425 | 46.0 | 19,550 | 75,208 | 73,958 | 42.5 | 3,140,996 | Bu. |
| | 2005 | 460 | 450 | 44.0 | 19,800 | 73,303 | 72,184 | 38.7 | 2,791,133 | Bu. |
| Hay, Dry Alfalfa | 2004 | - | 540 | 2.80 | 1,512 | - | 21,707 | 3.47 | 75,383 | Ton |
| | 2005 | - | 500 | 2.60 | 1,300 | - | 22,118 | 3.34 | 73,849 | Ton |
| Hay, Dry Other | 2004 | - | 1,160 | 2.40 | 2,784 | - | 40,209 | 2.05 | 82,391 | Ton |
| | 2005 | - | 1,160 | 1.90 | 2,204 | - | 39,605 | 1.92 | 76,068 | Ton |
| Tobacco, All | 2004 | - | 4.0 | 2,025 | 8,100 | - | 408.0 | 2,155 | 879,227 | Lbs. |
| | 2005 | - | 5.0 | 2,096 | 10,480 | - | 316.9 | 2,137 | 677,088 | Lbs. |
| Potatoes, Fall | 2004 | 12.0 | 11.0 | 240 | 2,640 | 1,039.7 | 1,022.8 | 401 | 410,023 | Cwt. |
| | 2005 | 11.5 | 11.0 | ² | ² | 970.4 | 955.7 | ² | ² | Cwt. |

¹ Harvested for grain, remainder of planted acres for silage and other uses. ² Not available until November.

FRUIT FORECAST

Pennsylvania's fruit production is expected to vary based on crop, variety, and location.

Apples: Pennsylvania's production is forecast at 430 million pounds, up 6 percent from last year's crop, but down 3 percent from 2003. According to apple producers, Pennsylvania apples are looking good. They expect fair to good yields and report, as of August 1, receiving adequate rainfall for sizing. Disease and insect pressure have been average this season. The first U.S. forecast of the 2005 season is 9.84 billion pounds, down 6 percent from last year, but 12 percent above the 2003 crop.

Grapes: Pennsylvania grape growers remain very optimistic about their grape crop. Pennsylvania's production forecast is 80,000 tons, down 8 percent from last year and down 6 percent from 2003. Growers report an excellent crop in vineyards with no major disease or insect issues as of August 1. U.S. grape production is forecast at 6.80 million tons, up 9 percent from 2004 and 2 percent about 2003.

Peaches: Pennsylvania peach growers expect to harvest 20,500 tons of peaches from their orchards in 2005. This estimate is unchanged from the July 1 forecast. Most growers reported a fair peach crop with average to large size and excellent flavor. Quality is reported as being very good. Approximately one third of the PA crop was harvested as of August 1. The U.S. peach production forecast is 1.23 million tons, 1 percent below the July forecast and 6 percent below 2004.

Pears: The Pennsylvania crop is forecast at 3,150 tons, down 30 percent from 2004 and down 39 percent from 2003. Survey comments indicate that the crop was negatively affecting weather conditions during pollination. U.S. pear production is forecast at 852,980 tons, down 4 percent from last year and 9 percent from 2003.

AUGUST 1, 2005 FRUIT FORECASTS WITH COMPARISONS

| Crop | Year | Production | |
|--------------|------|-----------------------|---------------|
| | | Pennsylvania | United States |
| | | <i>Million Pounds</i> | |
| Apples..... | 2003 | 442.0 | 8,793.1 |
| | 2004 | 405.0 | 10,419.9 |
| | 2005 | 430.0 | 9,837.1 |
| Peaches..... | 2003 | 36,500 | 1,259,500 |
| | 2004 | 23,000 | 1,307,110 |
| | 2005 | 20,500 | 1,233,850 |
| Pears | 2003 | 5,200 | 934,050 |
| | 2004 | 4,500 | 890,260 |
| | 2005 | 3,150 | 852,980 |
| Grapes | 2003 | 85,000 | 6,643,530 |
| | 2004 | 86,800 | 6,231,700 |
| | 2005 | 80,000 | 6,800,900 |

MILK COWS & MILK PRODUCTION

| Item | Unit | Pennsylvania | | | 23 States | | |
|-----------------------|-----------|--------------|----------|----------|-----------|----------|----------|
| | | Jul 2004 | Jun 2005 | Jul 2005 | Jul 2004 | Jun 2005 | Jul 2005 |
| Milk Cows | Thous. | 559 | 563 | 561 | 8,096 | 8,132 | 8,144 |
| Milk Per Cow..... | Lbs. | 1,510 | 1,595 | 1,610 | 1,623 | 1,686 | 1,682 |
| Milk Production | Mil. Lbs. | 844 | 898 | 903 | 13,143 | 13,712 | 13,698 |

MILK PRODUCTION

Milk production in Pennsylvania during July 2005 totaled 903 million pounds, 7 percent above last July's production of 844 million pounds. The number of milk cows in the state during the month averaged 561,000 head, down 2,000 from June, but up 2,000 head from July 2004. Production per cow averaged 1,610 pounds, up 15 pounds from June 2005, and up 100 pounds from the July 2004 average.

Milk production in the 23 major States surveyed during July totaled 13.7 billion pounds, up 4.2 percent from July 2004. June revised

production, at 13.7 billion pounds, was up 5.6 percent from June 2004. The June revision represented an increase of 0.2 percent or 28 million pounds from last month's preliminary production estimate. Production per cow in the 23 major States averaged 1,682 pounds for July, 59 pounds above July 2004. The number of milk cows on farms in the 23 major States was 8.14 million head, 48,000 head more than July 2004, and 12,000 head more than June 2005.

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